

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In view of the amendments and remarks herein, favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested. By this Amendment, claims 16 and 17 are cancelled, and claims 14, 15, and 18 are amended. Claims 14, 15, and 18 are pending for further examination.

Applicant notes with appreciation that the replacement drawing was accepted.

Claims 14 and 18 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious over the combination of Miller et al. (US 5,959,869), in view of Siegel et al. (US 4,413,260) and Barrett et al. (US 5,214,761). Applicant respectfully submits that the amended claims herein are not rendered obvious by the cited references. Thus, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejections are respectfully requested.

Amended claim 14 now recites:

"A) Digital audiovisual reproduction system, comprising a central unit controlling a display, a touch screen, and memory, through a multitask operating system comprising a tools and services library.

B) wherein the operating system comprises an interpreter for interpreting actions of an operator on the touch screen and for allowing such an operator to access a module in the tools and services library, so as to offer a manager of the audiovisual reproduction system a given number of credits, one credit corresponding to the fee necessary to select a song,

C) the number of credits being stored in a file on the memory as a credit reserve, this file being undated each time the manager uses a credit and each time the operator supplies one or more credits,

D) said interpreter being adapted for interpreting:
touching of a first specific button in a first specific area of the touch screen as a request for adding in said file one credit to the credit reserve, and

touching of a second specific button in a second specific area of the touch screen as a request for removing in said file one credit to the number of credits only if credit reserve is not empty,

E), the first button being provided in a first specific displayed screen for the operator, the second button being provided in a second specific displayed screen for the manager,

F) an interface being automatically displayed in the first specific screen and in the second specific screen when one of said specific buttons is used, said interface requiring a first code for enabling said first button to function as a request for adding in said file one credit to the credit reserve when this first button is touched, said interface requiring a second code for enabling said second button to function as a request for removing in said file one credit to the credit reserve when this second button is touched".

Applicant respectfully submits that Miller does not disclose interpreting means that allows an operator to access a module for providing a given number of credits as in part B) of amended claim 14. Additionally, Miller does not disclose a single file that can

be updated when the operator or the manager wants to modify the number of credits as in part C) of amended claim 14.

Miller does not disclose an interpreter for determining whether a user has touched a specific button as a request for adding/removing one credit to the number of credits as in part D) of amended claim 14. Unlike part E) of amended claim 14, Miller does not disclose different display screens each providing one of said specific buttons. Nor does Miller disclose automatically displaying an interface requiring a determined code, said interface means being provided for each of said different display screens (one for the operator, and one for the manager). Thus, Miller does not teach or suggest part F) of amended claim 14.

Even if combined with Siegel, Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of Miller and Siegel does not teach or suggest the combination of features D), E) and F) of amended claim 14. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that one of ordinary skill in the art would not have considered combining the teachings of Miller and Siegel. Siegel is directed to a remote-controlled system for coin-operated phonographs. A person skilled in the art would not look to the teachings of Siegel because it is not related to a digital audiovisual reproduction system. Applicant respectfully submits that, even considering the inappropriate combination of Miller and Siegel, the combination of references does not render amended claim 14 obvious.

The Official Action alleges that Barrett teaches a touch screen interface wherein the touching of a first specific button in a first specific area of the touch screen is

interpreted as a request for adding value to a variable, and the touching of a second specific button in a second specific area of the touch screen as a request for removing value from a variable. However, Applicant respectfully submits that Barrett does not disclose the separate buttons provided for an operator and another one provided for a manager. Thus, one of ordinary skill in the art would not interpret Barrett to teach or suggest different buttons for different kinds of users.

Claim 15 also has been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miller, Siegel, Barrett, and in further view of Kalis et al. (US 6,212,138). Applicant respectfully submits that Kalis fails to make up for the deficiencies noted above. Thus, even if the combination of Miller, Siegel, Barrett, and Kalis were proper, claim 15 should be allowable at least by virtue of its dependence from allowable independent amended claim 14.

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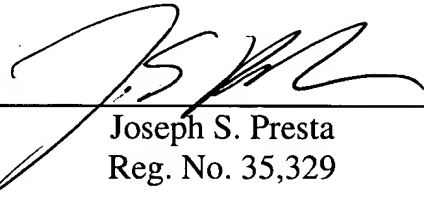
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In view of the amendments and remarks herein, Applicant believes that the amended claims herein clearly and patentably distinguish the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. Thus, favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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